

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-12
IO-13 TRSE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 /073 W
-----034701 021803Z /43

O O 021732Z DEC 77 ZFF 4
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 3667
USMISSION USNATO IMMEDIATE
INFO USMISSION USBERLIN
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 20063

DEPARTMENT FOR EUR/CE (GEORGE CHESTER)

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, BQG, NATO
SUBJECT: DECEMBER QUADRIpartite MEETING ON BERLIN:
NAC BRIEFING

REFS: A) STATE 284360; B) USNATO 11721

1. IN ACCORDANCE WITH INSTRUCTIONS, THE US BONN GROUP
REP PROPOSED A TEXT FOR THE NAC BRIEFING. THE FIRST
THREE PARAGRAPHS ARE TAKEN FROM THE POLITICAL ASSESSMENT
WHILE THE FOURTH IS FROM LAST YEAR'S NAC BRIEFING. THE
PROPOSED TEXT WAS APPROVED AD REF BY THE BONN GROUP
WITHOUT ANY CHANGES BEING PROPOSED.

2. THE TEXT IS AS FOLLOWS:

BEGIN TEXT. BRIEFING ON BERLIN FOR THE NORTH ATLANTIC
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COUNCIL

A. FOLLOWING THE FIRM DECLARATION ON BERLIN MADE BY
THE HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT IN LONDON ON MAY 9,
THE QUADRIpartite AGREEMENT HAS CONTINUED IN THE LAST
SIX MONTHS TO OPERATE IN GENERAL SATISFACTORILY. THE
BENEFITS TO BERLINERS IN PRACTICAL AND HUMANITARIAN

MATTERS HAVE CONTINUED. AS THE FEDERAL CHANCELLOR SAID IN BERLIN ON OCTOBER 3, 1977, THE TIES WHICH HAVE GROWN UP BETWEEN THE WESTERN SECTORS OF BERLIN AND THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY CANNOT BE DENIED. BUT THE UNDERLYING LEGAL AND POLITICAL DIFFERENCES BETWEEN EAST AND WEST REMAIN APPARENT. DURING THE PERIOD THE SOVIET UNION AND THE GDR HAVE CONTINUED TO PUT PRESSURE ON THE TIES BETWEEN THE WESTERN SECTORS OF BERLIN AND THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY AND ALSO TO SEEK TO LIMIT THE RIGHT OF THE REPRESENTATION ABROAD OF THE INTERESTS OF THE WESTERN SECTORS OF BERLIN BY THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY. THE SITUATION REMAINS THEREFORE GENERALLY CALM BUT THERE CONTINUES TO BE AN UNDERCURRENT OF TENSION.

B. SOVIET AND GDR EFFORTS IN THE LAST SIX MONTHS HAVE AIMED, AS IN THE PAST, AT SECURING ACCEPTANCE OF THEIR CONCEPT OF WEST BERLIN AS A SPECIAL POLITICAL ENTITY. THE MANNER IN WHICH EASTERN POSITIONS HAVE BEEN EXPRESSED REMAINS TO ALL EFFECTS THE SAME. DURING THE LAST SIX MONTHS MOSCOW HAS BEEN THE PRINCIPAL SPOKESMAN FOR THE EAST, THE GDR BEING CONTENT FAITHFULLY TO KEEP IN STEP. NONETHELESS, IT IS LIKELY THAT THE GDR OFTEN PROMPTS THE SOVIET UNION TO TAKE A HARD LINE. IT IS ALWAYS RISKY TO ATTEMPT TO UNRAVEL WHAT CAN BE ATTRIBUTED TO A GDR AS OPPOSED TO A SOVIET INITIATIVE. IN
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PROPAGANDA MATTERS THE TRADITIONAL TENDENCY HAS CONTINUED OF EXPRESSING OCCASIONALLY IN THE SOVIET PRESS

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 20063

A WHOLE CATALOGUE OF THE GRIEVANCES WHICH MOSCOW HARBORS
OVER BERLIN MATTERS.

C. THE SOVIET AND GDR EFFORTS OVER THE LAST SIX MONTHS
MUST HOWEVER BE WEIGHED AGAINST CERTAIN FACTS WHICH
REDUCE THEIR IMPACT. THE AREA OF CIVILIAN AND ALLIED
ACCESS HAS REMAINED CALM, ALTHOUGH THE NUMBER OF
CIVILIAN TRAVELLERS WHO WERE REFUSED ACCESS TO THE
TRANSIT ROUTES WAS BY NO MEANS NEGLIGIBLE. THE
GDR HAS NOT TAKEN ANY NEW MEASURES WITHIN THE PERIOD
TO INTEGRATE FURTHER THE EASTERN SECTOR INTO THE
STATE SYSTEM, THOUGH IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT THERE IS
LITTLE LEFT TO CHANGE. INNER-GERMAN NEGOTIATIONS, WHICH
INCLUDE VARIOUS ARRANGEMENTS OF INTEREST TO BERLIN,
HAVE RESUMED AND SOME MODEST PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE.

D. THE FOUR GOVERNMENTS WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS AGAIN
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TO THEIR ALLIES GRATITUDE FOR THE SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE
THAT HAS BEEN RENDERED WITH RESPECT TO BERLIN. END TEXT.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: APPROVAL OF AD REF TEXT AND
AUTHORIZATION FOR USNATO TO COORDINATE WITH THE OTHER
THREE MISSIONS ON PRESENTATION TO NATO. REGARDING
MODALITIES FOR PRESENTATION, FRENCH IN BONN GROUP
ASSUME THAT THE FRENCH WILL PRESENT IT. OUR
RECOLLECTION IS THAT THE MOST RECENT INFORMAL AGREEMENT
AT NATO WAS THAT THE BRIEFING WOULD BE GIVEN BY THE
COUNTRY HOSTING THE QUADRIPARTITE DINNER -- IN THIS
INSTANCE, THE FRENCH.
STOESSEL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ALLIANCE, MEETINGS, BERLIN QUADRIpartite MATTERS, MEETING REPORTS, COMMITTEES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 02-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BONN20063
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770447-1138
Format: TEL
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t197712102/aaaadigl.tel
Line Count: 166
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 99decefb-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 284360, 77 USNATO 11721
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 107360
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DECEMBER QUADRIpartite MEETING ON BERLIN: NAC BRIEFING
TAGS: PGOV, BQG, NATO, NAC
To: STATE USNATO
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/99decefb-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009